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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OF THE PATENT COOPERATION
TREATY)

(PCT Rule 44bis.1(c))

To:

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17 January 2008 (17.01.2008)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

International application No.

PCT/US2006/025089

International filing date (*day/month/year*)

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Applicant

IGT et al

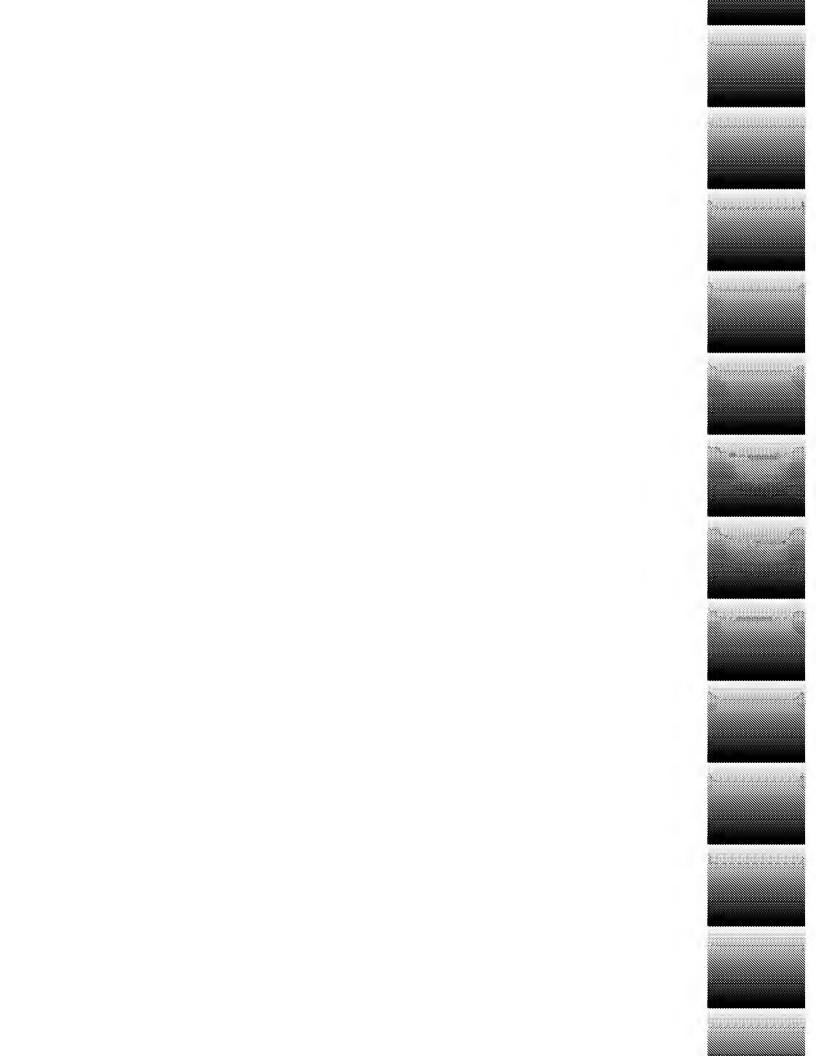
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Authorized officer

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2006/025089

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
 - ☐ a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ on paper
 - ☐ in electronic form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-25,27,29,33-37
	No: Claims	26,28,30-32
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-37
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-37
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

- 1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 : WO 02/32526 A (INT GAME TECH [US]) 25 April 2002 (2002-04-25)

D2 : US 2004/127290 A1 (WALKER JAY S [US] ET AL) 1 July 2004 (2004-07-01)

Independent claims

2. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject matter of claims 1 and 11 does not involve an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(3)PCT and the subject-matter of claims 26 and 28 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.
- 2.1 Document D1, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art to the subject matter of claim 1, discloses a gaming system comprising a gaming terminal data repository for receiving and storing transaction information from one or more gaming terminals and for storing and downloading game software components to said gaming terminals (cf. page 5, lines 18 - 27), whereby the software components comply with rules of a gaming jurisdiction (cf. page 20, lines 10 - 20), and one or more gaming terminals adapted to present a game of chance based on the received software components and to send transaction information to the repository (cf. page 14, lines 3 - 33).

The subject-matter of independent claim 1 therefore differs from the disclosure of D1 in that there is a module adapted to detect changed operational conditions at a gaming terminal and to provide the information regarding said changes to a player of said gaming terminal.

However, these features have already been employed for the same purpose in a similar gaming system, see document D2, paragraphs [0061] - [0063]. It would be obvious to the person skilled in the art, namely when the same result is to be achieved, to apply these features with corresponding effect to a gaming system according to document D1, thereby arriving at a system according to claim 1.

In view of D2 the solution proposed in claim 1 of the present application cannot be considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

- 2.2 Independent claim 11 deals with the gaming machine as used in the system of claim 1, and therefore the same reasoning as above is applicable here, mutatis mutandis. As a result, the subject-matter of claim 11 cannot be considered to involve an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(3)PCT.
- 2.3 Independent claim 26 deals with gaming terminal data repository as used in the system of claim 1. As the reasoning in paragraph 2.1 shows, this repository is already known from the state of the art, being document D1. Following the reasoning given in this paragraph, the subject-matter of claim 26 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.
- 2.4 Document D2, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art to the subject matter of claim 28, discloses a method of providing player notices at a gaming terminal, where operational changes to the terminal, initiated from a remote device, are detected and displayed to the player at the gaming terminal (cf. paragraphs [0057] and [0061] - [0063]). Therefore the subject-matter of claim 28 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

Dependent claims

3. Dependent claims 2-10, 12-25, 27, 29-37 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT).